

Southside Green Zone Council Agenda

Regular Meeting

February 18, 2020 - 06:00 PM

Stewart Park multipurpose room

Members : Samara Adam, Jason Chavez (phone), Karen Clark (phone), Scott Hargarten, Megan Kuhl-Stennes, Muhubo Mohamed, Kowsar Mohamed, Ashley O'Neill Prado (Quorum - 10)

Guests: Ardie Medina, Michelle Shaw, Edward Rapacz, Alexander Rapacz, Jeannette Lutter Gardella, Cassandra Meyer, Brad Pass, Steve Sandberg

Staff : Kelly Muellman, Olayemi Fadahunsi

Welcome & Grounding

1. Introductions: Everyone introduced themselves, why they are attending the Green Zone meeting, and whether they prefer pie, cake or ice cream.
2. Grounding: Lighting of candle and a moment of appreciation and well wishes for Joe Golish who recently resigned.
3. Review agenda.
4. Recap of past meeting (minutes of [Jan 27, 2020](#)).

Announcements

5. Heat & Greet: Thursday, February 27, 2020 from 5:30 – 8:00 pm at Corcoran Neighborhood Organization 3451 Cedar Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55407
This is a heating and weatherization community workshop with tips/tricks to make your homes warmer and healthier, giveaways, help with income-based energy assistance applications, and free utility bill consultation.
6. Sign up for the [City Trees](#) program
 - March 16 - March 22: Residents in Green Zones AND landlords in any area of the City with a valid Rental License (up to 10 different rental addresses).
 - March 23 - April 15: Residents in any area of the City who have not received a tree from the residential tree distribution (City Trees program) in the last 3 years.
 - April 16 - May 1: Residents in any area of the City including those who have received a tree from the residential tree distribution (City Trees program) in the last 3 years.
7. Career Fair – Feb 19, 2020 from 9am-12pm at CareerForce Center at Lake Street and Chicago Ave S.
8. Boulevard Gardening – guest Michelle Shaw
 - Michelle is leading an effort to change the ordinance that regulates gardening on boulevards and create a pilot program before to test the soil and chose environmentally friendly plants. There will be a meeting in March with city staff and Ward 1 Council Member Kevin Reich. Southside Green Zone members are invited to attend the March meeting and represent their neighborhood. Interested members: Ashley, Karen, and Samara.
9. MN Pollution Control Agency – Cassandra Myer
 - MPCA is organizing a tool box for regulated parties to voluntarily engage with neighbors. MPCA will host a workshop and planning calls to develop the tool. They want community, government, and regulatory bodies to co-develop.

Presentation

10. Final presentations from EJ Pop Up Fund recipients

- *Ardie – Division of Indian Works*
- Division of Indian Works used the funds to purchase a van called the “Produce Pony” to deliver healthy food to the American Indian community. This creates better access for people who cannot get to the food shelf locations. They were allocated \$7500 from SSGZ and more funds from other organizations. The Produce Pony is a huge accomplishment for them and has been in the works for about 3 years.
- *Jeanette – Isuroon*
- Isuroon used the funds to buy a cooler to refrigerate food and products they give to families. Since moving to their new location, they needed a cooling system. One of the benefits of the cooler is they can provide moms who have kid with special needs a specific formula not covered by insurance. Their goal is to help the East African Community to connect to local food resources.
- *Kowsar – The Qalanjo Project*
- Qalanjo in Somali means Female Elephant that leads which guides the mission of the project. The broader vision for this project incorporates wayfinding and community place-making. With their EJ Pop-Up Fund resources, The Qalanjo Project organized a 3-hour event in Cedar Riverside where they introduced topics of anti-displacement and gentrification to attendees. About 100-150 hours were invested. Advice to the City and Southside Green Zone Council is to provide more info session and trainings/expectations of the projects making it more accessible to more people.

Discussion

11. Creative CityMaking: Southside Green Zone Council participation in April 23 event with Anishinabe Academy

- Kelly provided an overview of the event: an evening of Art and Science at Anishinabe with students, families and the greater community. The school has a structure of events for the evening, including dinner, screen printing, seed-paper making, and tree give-away. The question for the Southside Green Zone Council is how they want to be involved at the event. Ideas included bringing a large print-out of the Southside Green Zone Work Plan, button making, a video with the kids/parents, and quotes on a board from the kids on what they’ve learned. Volunteers interested in attending: Samara, Megan, Ashley, Kowsar(maybe), Scott.

12. Brainstorm topics to discuss over the next couple months.

- Karen presented a resolution supporting the Indoor Urban Farm Project that she asked the Southside Green Zone to sign. There was some discussion of additional ‘whereas’ and ‘therefore be it resolved’ clauses, and the group voted unanimously to approve the resolution as amended.
- Future months topics were listed out but there was very little time to discuss them. The plan for the March 23 meeting is to focus on setting the Southside Green Zone Council’s goals for 2020 and developing a budget for the rest of the year and 2021. Additionally, members and guests should start to recruit folks to apply for the vacancies on the Southside Green Zone Council.
- With Joe Golish’s resignation from the Southside Green Zone Council, two members stepped forward to join the leadership team: Ashley O’Neill Prado and Scott Hargarten. Kelly will meet with Samara, Kowsar, Ashley and Scott to plan the March meeting agenda.

Adjournment

13. Adjourn until the Special Meeting on Monday, February 24 to prepare for presentation to City Council

Notice: A portion of this meeting may be closed to the public pursuant to MN Statutes Section 13D.03 or 13D.05

Next Southside Green Zone Council meeting Date: Mar 23, 2020

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the City Coordinator's Office at 612-673-3014 or e-mail kelly.muellman@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-673-2157 or 612-673-2626. Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.